

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vermont Children's Performance Indicator Project Advisory Group

FROM: John Pandiani
Brad James

DATE: July 17, 1997

RE: Children and Adolescents Served per Capita by Developmental Services,
Substance Abuse, Adult Mental Health, and CRT Programs

This is the fifth in our series of reports on access to children's services in Vermont. The attached tables present per capita utilization rates for four community mental health center programs (Developmental Services, Substance Abuse, Adult Mental Health, and CRT).

The total utilization rate for all four services is much less than the utilization of Children's Services Programs as reported last week both for the state as a whole and the ten community mental health areas individually.

We look forward to your comments on the quality of the data, the appropriateness of the analysis, and the effectiveness of the presentation of these data, as well as your interpretation of the results.

Children and Adolescents Served per Capita: Developmental Services, Substance Abuse, Adult Mental Health, and CRT Programs

Question: Does the proportion of children and adolescents who reside in each of Vermont's ten community mental health service areas and who receive services from Developmental Services, Substance Abuse, Adult Mental Health, and CRT programs vary substantially among the ten regions?

Data: Information on the number of children and adolescents (less than 22 years of age) who receive services from different programs at community mental health centers was obtained from FY1996 Quarterly Service Reports submitted to DDMHS by community providers. Populations figures are projections for 1995 based on estimates published by the Vermont Department of Health and the Center for Rural Studies at the University of Vermont.

Analysis: Rates for children served per 1,000 children were calculated for the state as a whole and for each of the ten community mental health service areas. The rates were further subdivided according to the program of service (Developmental Services, Substance Abuse, Adult Mental Health, and CRT) for the state as a whole and the service areas. Rates per 1,000 were calculated by dividing the number of children in a program by the total number of children in the service area (or state). The answer was then multiplied by 1,000 to convert it to children per 1,000.

The Quarterly Service Report for Howard Center for Human Services includes services provided by the Champlain Drug & Alcohol Services in other areas of the state. Children served by Howard in substance abuse programs were placed in their respective service areas for purposes of counting individuals served by substance abuse programs. This was accomplished by using the current zip code of each individual as given in the Quarterly Service Reports. The numbers shown for substance abuse for each service area thus reflect the count of individuals residing in the service area regardless of where substance abuse treatment was provided.

Results: There were substantial variations among the service areas in the total rate of children served by these programs with the Orange service area having the highest rate of service (19 per 1,000) followed by Bennington (18 per 1,000). The Lamoille and Northeast service areas had the lowest total service rates (9 per 1,000 each).

Community mental health center Substance Abuse Programs were the single largest provider of services to children and adolescents in the state as a whole and in most service areas. Statewide, 6 children per 1,000 were served by Substance Abuse Programs. There was also substantial variation between the service areas in the rates of children served by substance abuse programs. The Franklin and Orange service areas had the highest rates

of service for substance abuse (10 per 1,000 each). The Northeast service area (where the community mental health center did not operate a Substance Abuse program) had the lowest service rate (<0.5 per 1,000) with the Lamoille service area having the second lowest service rate for substance abuse (3 per 1,000).

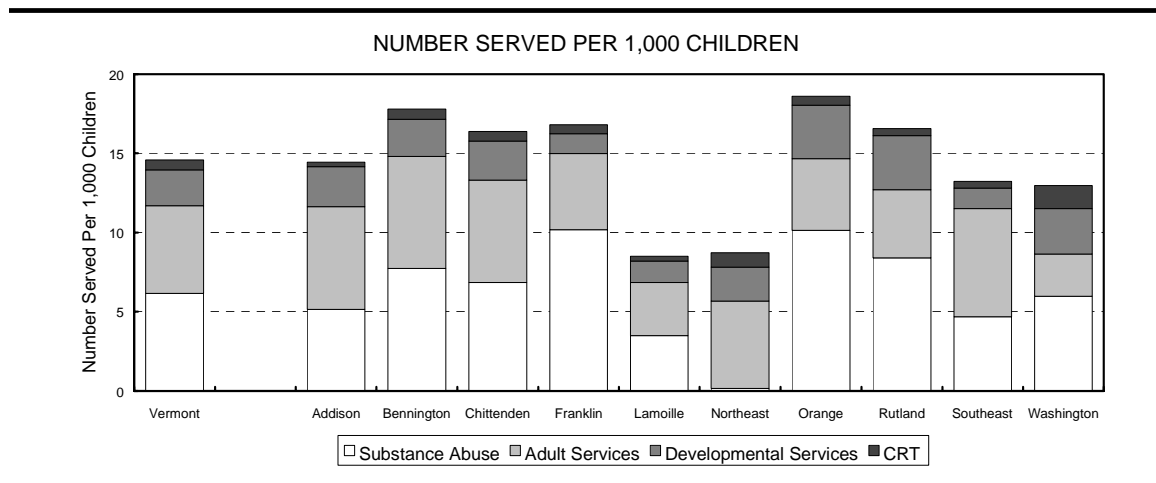
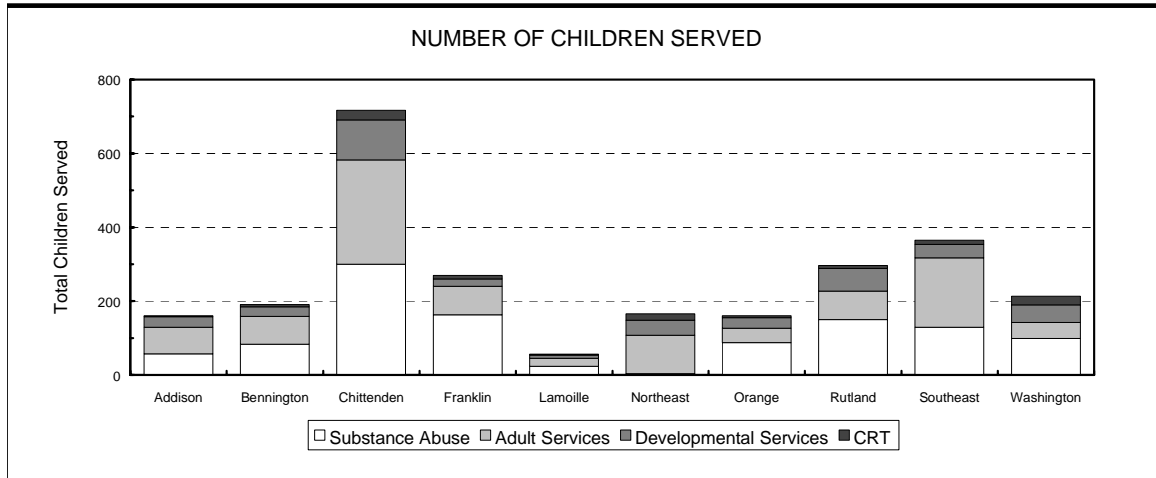
Adult Mental Health programs were the second largest provider of services to children and adolescents in the state as a whole and in most of the ten service areas. Statewide, 6 children per 1,000 were served by Adult Mental Health Programs. Some variation in service rates exists between the service areas with the Bennington and Southeast service areas having the largest service rates for children and adolescents in Adult Mental Health programs (7 per 1,000 each). The Washington and Lamoille service areas had the lowest service rates (3 per 1,000).

Developmental Service Programs provided services to substantially fewer children and adolescents for the state overall and also for most of the service areas. Statewide, 2 children per 1,000 were served by Developmental Services (one-third of the numbers served by either Substance Abuse or Adult Mental Health Programs).

CRT programs served the fewest children and adolescents statewide and showed little variation among service rates.

Next Questions: How do these utilization rates compare to similar programs in other states? Have utilization rates changed over time? Are the relatively high rates of children and adolescents served by Adult Services Programs due solely to individuals between 18 and 22 years of age? How do these utilization rates relate to the revenues per capita as reported in previous weeks?

CHILDREN SERVED BY DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, ADULT MENTAL HEALTH, AND CRT PROGRAMS PER 1,000 CHILDREN



Region/Provider	Children's Population	Program Totals					Children Served Per 1,000 Population ²				
		Substance Abuse ¹	Adult MH Programs	Develop. Services	CRT	District Totals	Substance Abuse ^{1,3}	Adult MH Programs	Develop. Services	CRT ³	District Totals
Addison - CSAC	11,078	57	72	28	3	160	5	6	3	0	14
Bennington - UCS	10,734	83	76	25	7	191	8	7	2	1	18
Chittenden - HCHS	43,730	299	283	108	26	716	7	6	2	1	16
Franklin - FGI	16,016	163	77	20	9	269	10	5	1	1	17
Lamoille - LCMHS	6,588	23	22	9	2	56	3	3	1	0	9
Northeast - NEK	18,906	3	104	41	17	165	0	6	2	1	9
Orange - CMC	8,598	87	39	29	5	160	10	5	3	1	19
Rutland - RACS	17,877	150	77	61	8	296	8	4	3	0	17
Southeast - HCRSSV	27,572	129	188	36	12	365	5	7	1	0	13
Washington - WCMHS	16,429	98	44	47	24	213	6	3	3	1	13
Vermont	177,528	1,092	982	404	113	2,591	6	6	2	1	15

¹ Population figures are based on quarterly service reports submitted by Vermont's Community Service Providers for FY1996. Population figures are projections for 1995 based on the latest estimates published by the Vermont Department of Health and the Center for Rural Studies at the University of Vermont. 'Children's Population' includes people less than 22 years of age.

Children reported as served by Howard Substance Abuse Programs were placed in their respective service areas. Numbers reflect the place of residence rather than the location where treatment was provided.

Numbers for 'Children Served Per 1,000 Population' are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Values shown as zero represent utilization rates less than 0.5 children per 1,000 population.